

## Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

Department of Highways District 9

For Immediate Release Feb. 13, 2011

**Contact: Allen Blair** 

Allen.Blair@ky.gov

606-845-2551 606-748-3716

## Engineers, state highway staff available for classroom visits

Part of Transportation Cabinet's KEEN program

FLEMINGSBURG, Ky. – Calling all teachers! Did you know that professional engineers and state highway staff are available to visit your classrooms?

For more than 20 years, the Transportation Cabinet has provided classroom visits as part of the Kentucky Engineering Exposure Network (KEEN) to help educators bridge the gap between the math and science curriculum and its real-world applications.

Through the free program, cabinet employees partner with schools in their own communities to discuss how they build bridges, plan massive multi-lane highways or configure complicated electronic traffic control systems, and to lead students in hands-on learning center activities.

Activities like Foil Boat Construction, Toothpick Bridge Building, Paper Towers and more are engineering-based and designed to reinforce team-building as well as math concepts such as weights and measures, surface area and basic geometry or physics principles like buoyancy, force and friction. Teaching-only lessons about the history of highways and engineering careers are also available.

In addition, the classroom visits include information about the Transportation Cabinet's scholarship programs.

Each year, the cabinet awards as many as 20 college scholarships to students interested in pursuing bachelor's degrees in civil engineering through accredited Kentucky universities. Scholarships are also available for those pursuing civil engineering technology degrees at two schools in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS).

The competitive scholarships offer not only a way for students throughout Kentucky to pay for a higher education, but they also offer employment with the Transportation Cabinet upon completion of a degree.

To invite an engineer to your classroom in Bath, Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Lewis, Mason, Nicholas and Rowan counties, or to learn more about the scholarships, please contact Allen Blair at the Kentucky Department of Highways District 9 office via email at allen.blair@ky.gov or call toll-free 1-800-817-2551.

More information about the KEEN program, including lists of activities and contact information for coordinators in other parts of the state, can be found online at <a href="https://www.transportation.ky.gov">www.transportation.ky.gov</a> by clicking the Programs & Services menu and linking to either Education or KEEN Program.

###

Find more information about Department of Highways District 9 activities online at <a href="http://transportation.ky.gov/district-9">http://transportation.ky.gov/district-9</a>, or keep up to date via Twitter at <a href="http://twitter.com/KYTCDistrict9">http://twitter.com/KYTCDistrict9</a> or via Facebook at <a href="http://facebook.com/KYTCDistrict9">http://facebook.com/KYTCDistrict9</a>.